

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN SA 00937 282330Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OPR-02
SY-05 MCT-01 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 PC-01 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /070 W
-----282342 080779 /73

O 282300Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3507
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 0937

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PGOV, ES
SUBJECT: SAN SALVADOR REMAINS INTRANQUIL IN WAKE OF GOVERNMENT
CLEARANCE OF PLAZA

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0907

1. THE CAPITAL REMAINS A CITY CONVULSED BY EVENTS SURROUNDING
THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERVENTION INTO THE PLAZA LA LIBERTAD
IN THE WEE HOURS OF FEBRUARY 27-28 TO DISLODGE BY FORCE THE
OPPOSITION SEIGE (REFTEL). THE SPORADIC FIRING REPORTED IN
REFTEL AT 0900 CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE MORNING. THE CENTER
OF THE CITY BECAME A ZONE WHERE MANY EMPLOYEES OF COMMERCIAL
ENTERPRISES WERE TRAPPED IN THE PREMISES BY FEAR OF WHAT WAS
HAPPENING OUTSIDE, AND WHERE FEW FROM THE RELATIVELY UNTOUCHED
RESIDENTIAL SUBURBS VENTURED UNLESS FOR THE STRONGEST OF
REASONS. SEVERAL VEHICLES HAVE BEEN OVERTURNED AND SET ABLAZE.
THE OFFICES OF LA PRENSA GRAFICA WERE BADLY VANDALIZED IN THE
AFTERNOON BY A MOB OF SOME 500 ANGRY DEMONSTRATORS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN SA 00937 282330Z

2. AN EMBASSY OFFICER VISITED THE CENTRAL RECEIVING
HOSPITAL AND WAS TOLD THAT THE UNOFFICIAL TALLY AT NOON
FEBRUARY 28 WAS EIGHT DEAD AND THIRTY-NINE WOUNDED (OF WHOM
FOUR NOT EXPECTED TO LIVE). A LARGE CROWD REPORTED TO HAVE
GATHERED IN THE PLAZA AGAIN, AT TIMES CHANTING "CLARAMOUNT,
CLARAMOUNT". IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE CORONEL WILL SOON HEED

THIS CRY, SINCE THE AFTERNOON RADIO CARRIED THE STORY THAT CLARAMOUNT LEFT THE COUNTRY FOR "VOLUNTARY EXILE" IN COSTA RICA. THE NEWS ITEM CLAIMS THAT CLARAMOUNT WAS GIVEN THREE OPTIONS BY THE GOES - HOUSE ARREST, CONFINEMENT TO MILITARY QUARTERS, OR EXILE. HE CHOSE THE LATTER, AND LEFT AFTER SIGNING DISCLAIMER OF BEING MISTREATED.

3. THE UNO VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, ANTONIO MORALES EHRlich, REMAINS UNACCOUNTED FOR AS OF 1600 HOURS. SEVERAL EMBASSIES REPORTEDLY HAVE RECEIVED ASYLEES, COSTA RICA AND MEXICO BEING THE MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED.

4. ALTHOUGH IT IS FAR TOO EARLY TO OFFER PREDICTIONS OF WHERE THIS SERIES OF INCIDENTS MIGHT LEAD, SPECULATION HAS BEGUN TO CIRCULATE OF A VARIETY OF SCENARIOS LEADING TO AN EVENTUAL BRUSQUE CHANGE IN REGIME. ALL SUCH TALK IS PREMATURE, WHATEVER ITS SOURCE. ANOTHER SERIES OF RUMORS REVOLVES AROUND THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS ABOUT TO ANNOUNCE MARTIAL LAW IN AN EFFORT TO REGAIN TOTAL CONTROL OF THE STREETS. THIS PREDICTION ALSO APPEARS PREMATURE, ALTHOUGH SUCH AN ACT WOULD MAKE SENSE FROM A GOES PERSPECTIVE AND COULD EASILY OCCUR IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
LOZANO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANSAA00937
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770069-0191
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977022/aaaaabyu.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1cdb60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SAN SALVADOR 907
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3260211
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAN SALVADOR REMAINS INTRANQUIL IN WAKE OF GOVERNMENT CLEARANCE OF PLAZA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PGOV, ES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1cdb60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009